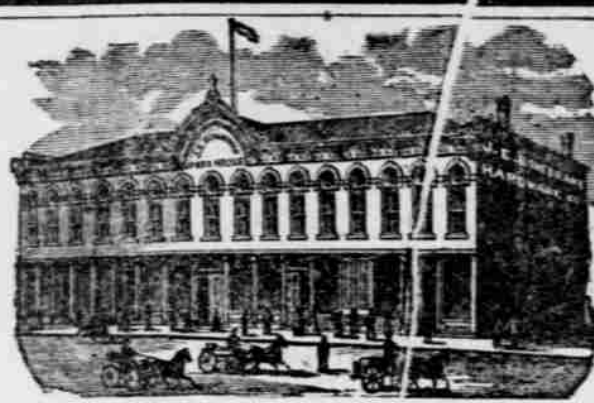


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ABILENE REFLECTOR.

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STROTHER & LITS.
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

The Kansas Addresses.

All the addresses delivered at Topeka Friday upon the progress of Kansas during her twenty-five years of prosperous statehood were interesting. The most instructive, perhaps, were those of Mr. Humphrey upon the railroads and Mr. Caldwell upon the manufactures of the state.

Mr. Humphrey showed that there are in Kansas to-day 5,000 miles of railroad. Measured by the standard of population there is a greater relative mileage than in the eastern and middle states, and among the western states Kansas yields only to Iowa and Minnesota. The roads are pushing out toward the western parts of the state and are giving nearly all the counties transportation facilities. In the eastern counties no farm is more than twenty miles from a railroad and only a few at that distance. The companies operating in the state have usually been successful and their relations with the public not often discordant. From the leading authority of the state this address, which is a sort of a report to the people, is eminently satisfactory and encouraging.

Mr. Humphrey utters a word of warning to which it may be well that some towns and counties should listen. There will be room, he says, for additional railroad mileage in the future but not for all the chartered projects which exist on paper. He adds sarcastically that "a portion of the state will be needed for other purposes besides ground upon which to plant railroads." It is perfectly certain, as he states, that too many railroads are a grievous burden. They must be supported by the agencies of production. A railroad does not add to actual wealth; it only makes wealth available. When more are built in a given territory than the territory really needs the property has to pay a heavier tax for transportation than it can afford. Enough charters have been taken out at Topeka for Kansas railroads to throw property owners into a financial convulsion if they are to be constructed at once. Behind others are only ineffectual schemes who depend upon deceiving the people along the proposed lines into making the franchises valuable. There are running through Kansas several great systems which are operated upon business principles and which will be ready to extend their branches wherever a prospect of profitable patronage offers. What they undertake, they will as a rule carry out and while the people of the state do not desire to put themselves in the power of a few monopolies, they should be more careful not to be drawn lamblike into the deeps of promiscuous speculation. They would do well to bear always in mind that they will have to pay the bills. Every man with a charter is not capable of building and operating a road nor can he always be depended upon to calculate the chances of future profitable business. Kansas is fairly well furnished with facilities now. The extensions of well founded systems would better constitute most of the future increase.

Mr. Caldwell's address contains information in compact and digestible form which should be put in the hands of eastern capitalist and manufacturers. He tells the Kansans that they do not comprehend the vast wealth they have in their coal fields. The Leavenworth field is twenty miles square and can keep 1,000 miners busy for 576 years. In Cherokee, Crawford, Bourbon and Osage counties there is an area of twenty by seventy miles underlaid with excellent bituminous coal. All over the eastern part of the state the mineral is found and usually in such a situation and of such quality that it is at once available. The manufacturer may be certain that the supply of coal will not be exhausted for centuries. Mr. Caldwell also refers to the great deposits of limestone and sandstone which could furnish material for all the houses and fences in the state. The lead and zinc mines are inexhaustible.

Compare Mr. Caldwell's facts with what is known of the mineral deposits in western Missouri and think for a moment of the geographical position of the region. The most unobservant sees without further suggestion that nature has done about all she could to make it a great manufacturing and distributing centre. With coal everywhere, building material cheap and food for labor obtainable at nominal prices; with the cotton of Arkansas and Texas and the wool of the sheep ranges; with the richest grainfields in the world all around; with these materials and situated in the center of the

country, eastern Kansas and western Missouri ought to be one mart of manufacture and trade. We are dealing in raw material chiefly now and like all who produce and handle raw material we are making less money than anybody else. We are rich but we are pouring out our riches into other hands most of the time. We need manufactures so that our raw material can be turned over every time by our own people and all the profits of handling can be secured by them. Kansas and Missouri are stripping themselves to feed eastern manufacturing towns. The thing is to move some of those towns out here and cultivate a mutualism of ministering.—K. C. Times.

The action of the Postmaster-General in regard to the question of a Sunday postal delivery in Baltimore will afford much satisfaction to all who believe in the value of Sunday as a day of rest, to say nothing of its observance as a divine institution. In his letter on the subject, Mr. Vilas gives his reasons as follows:

I recognize that the proposal to establish Sunday mail deliveries emanates from your zeal and public spirit as an office seeker to afford the utmost convenience to the citizens of Baltimore, and that there are very many reasons in support of the proposed action tending to indicate that it would not increase the work already necessarily performed on Sunday. It would, however, be an innovation upon the usages prevailing throughout the country, and it appears to me a step in the direction of an increase of Sunday toil. The beneficent uses of society and the blessed comfort to all who labor with hand or brain following the institution of one day in seven as a period of relaxation, whether it be spent in divine service, in decent recreation, or in intercourse with friends, or in whatever other proper manner different opinions may dictate, are so well assured by the experience of men, that although the fact strongly indicates its ordination proceeded from more than human wisdom, its continued observance is at least obligatory in just regard to our fellowmen, as well as in religious obedience, and the impetuous eagerness of our methods of business so continually presses and encroaches upon the day, that it seems to me the part of wisdom to resist any change which is in the direction of an added establishment of labor. Much is due in this respect to the opinions of those—certainly among the very best—citizens of the land—whose religious feeling is shocked by any new action of the nature of that proposed.

The decision is of National significance, as it is reported that similar requests have been made in other large cities.—Living Church (Chicago.)

JOHN WALRUFF

Gives his Views on the Decision of Judge Brewer.

John Walruff, the Lawrence brewer, was in the city yesterday, where he had come to attend the exercises of the quarter centennial celebration.

Thinking that in view of the recent decision rendered by Judge Brewer, an interview from Mr. Walruff might be of interest, a Capital reporter had a chat with him yesterday afternoon in the Winsor. Mr. Walruff was not at all loath to communicate to the reporter his views on prohibition, constitutional law, and in fact most anything. That part which bears on the recent decision is as follows.

"Mr. Walruff, what do you intend to do now that the case is decided in your favor?"

"The case will come before the United States circuit court next June when it will be tried on its merits. It is a foregone conclusion in my mind, however that Judge Brewer will again decide for me. I took my case to him in the first place because I knew it was of no use to go to the supreme court of the state. In my opinion the supreme court of Kansas is entirely political in its decisions, but I knew that I could get my rights in the federal court under the fourteenth amendment."

"Is your brewery in operation now, Mr. Walruff?"

"O, yes, and has been ever since the evening I first heard of the decision. You remember that September 22d the brewery was closed, under an injunction issued from the district court of Douglas county. Thursday evening, the evening on which Judge Brewer's decision was rendered, I was telephoned by parties at Topeka it was in my favor. I immediately gave orders to fire up the concern, placed stars and stripes over the brewery where they have been floating ever since, and from that hour we have been making beer shoot the same as ever. I am now determined not to 'go some-whereas,' but stick by my brewery, as that is my only way to make my bread and butter."

"How will you get back from the state your confiscated property?"

"That I don't know. I am in hopes that before long, we will get a legislature elected which will make appropriations to reimburse me. I don't believe that it would do any good for me to try

to get anything out of the present legislature. In 1881, before the prohibitory law went into effect, I made a proposition to sell out my brewery for fifty cents on the dollar, but I wouldn't think of doing anything like that now. We have made an arrangement by which we ship all of our beer to Kansas City, from where it is shipped back all over the state.

I was not at all anxious about what the decision would be. I knew that I would get my rights from Judge Brewer. I never thought that I was a violator of the law, and since the decision, I know that I am not.

The prohibition law was simply got up to give the lawyers more business. It is the work of fanaticism and priestcraft, and is in conflict with the constitution."

At this point, it being time for the train upon which Mr. Walruff wanted to go to Lawrence, the reporter thanked him for the interview and left.—Topeka Capital.

Robinson Bros. dry goods house, the largest one in Wichita, was destroyed by fire last Tuesday evening, together with several frame buildings. The loss by the fire is estimated to be \$45,000.

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Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Holders in many various designs at B. H. D'Huy's. For a game of BILLIARDS on the best table in the city, go to the Palace Barber Shop, under the Citizens Bank.

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\$35.00 buys the American Sewing Machine at McInerney's.

The American Sewing Machine is an improvement over all others. Call and examine it. I can make you familiar with it in ten minutes.

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The Best Brands of Cigars and Tobacco in the City.

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Queensware,
Lamps,
Notions, &c.
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—ON OUR ENTIRE STOCK.—

The cold weather is upon us, so if you have anything to buy in our line give us a look and become convinced that we mean business.



We publish no misleading or meaningless prices, but invite you to give us a call. Will be pleased to wait on you, quote prices and let you judge for yourselves.

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WE WARRANT OUR BLACK SILKS AND CASSIMERES.

We Have the Best Western Made Flannels, Cassimeres and Blankets.

MAKE THE BEST DISPLAY OF Table Linens, Napkins & Towelings.

You will find here the largest stock of Ladies, Gents and Childrens

Underwear, Gloves and Hosiery we have by the wagon load and at remarkably low prices.

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